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Subject: BATYUK Victor of the Ukrainian SSR mission to the U.N.

Source: RK A/51

Date: 13 November 1969

1. Meeting was arranged by telephone, with Subject calling source and asking to meet him on the 12th of November on the corner of 67th St. and Lexington Ave. in Manhattan. Subject promised to get tickets for a performance of the New York City Ballet company. Source arrived at the prearranged meeting place early, and instead of waiting, went into a bar on 67th St. between 2nd and 3rd Ave. In the bar he was approached by Andriy Kulyk who happened to be sitting with Subject. Subject did not appear to be shocked at meeting Source earlier, and seemed to be in a jovial mood. The conversational was banal and did not center upon political topics. When Subject went to the bathroom, Kulyk told Source that Subject had called him on the 12th and wanted to meet with him, they walked around and finally decided upon going into this particular bar. Kulyk left the bar at 8:00 P.M. and Subject remained with Source.

2. Subject stated that on the 17th or 18th of November a delegation of tourists will arrive from the Ukraine, this delegation will be headed by ~~DMYTRUK~~ <sup>VIRAS</sup> DMYTRUK, the head of the Association for Cultural Ties with Foreign Nations. Subject did not know who will be in that delegation, but said that he could find out for Source. Subject continued, saying that he heard that in New York there is a "Round Table" discussion club and he was wondering if they would be willing to sponsor a meeting with this group of tourists. Source replied that he was familiar with this club, and added that he would talk to them and see if they were interested in arranging a meeting. Subject commented that he felt such a meeting would be quite interesting and beneficial for both sides.

3. Subject had read Source's article in the student magazine, and commented that he tended to agree with Source's positions. He had also read about the UCCA congress and wanted to know Source's opinion about what had taken place. Subject read the letter to Shelest written by New York students and agreed with their point of view.

4. When asked by Source what will happen to Dzyuba now that there is a

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definite campaign against him in the USSR., Subject replied that as far as he knows, Dzyuba is still free, but all indications point to his being expelled from the Union of Writers of the Ukrainian SSR.

5. Source gave Subject a copy of the student publication, "New Directions" which Subject readily accepted. Source then asked Subject if he could possibly obtain some underground literature written in the USSR as a form of exchange. Subject was appaled by this proposition, said that he could not do this, and besides, he had no means of obtaining such literature. He mentioned that he was familiar with some poems written by Mykola KHOLODNIY which were published in the U.S. under the title: "KRYK Z MOHYLY", and he had never seen them in Kiev. Subject added that Kholodniy had been published in the Ukraine, but that not all his poetry was available there.

6. During a discussion on the Vietnam war, Source asked that if Subject felt that America was wrong in being in Vietnam, how did he explain Soviet tanks in Prague. Subject agreed with Source on this point, saying that he personally felt that Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia was uncalled for.

7. According to Subject NIKITCHENKO, the head of the KGB in Ukraine is a decent sort of individual. Why did he then arrest Ukrainian intellectuals? Subject did not want to reply to this.

8. Subject invited Source to a party at the Soviet Mission which will be held on Tuesday November 18th begining at 6:30 P.M. At this party there will be a short film about Ukrainian songs and afterwards drinks and a discussion. Subject urged that Source invite as many young people to attend this party as possible.

9. Source asked if he was informed as to the recent proposal of Diefenbaker to set up Canadian counsulates in Kiev, and in turn have Ukrainian counsulates in Ottawa. Subject <sup>claimed to</sup> ~~did not~~ know about this. When asked if such a proposal was reasonable, in light of the fact that this is perfectly legal, Subject replied that indeed, this is legal, and in fact there are some foriegn counsulates in Kiev already, the Polish, Hungarian and Bulgarian. About the chances for establishing diplomatic relations with the USA or Canada, Subject was not willing to say anything definite.

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10. When asked why the Ukrainian mission does not engage in publicity concerning the Ukrainian SSR, why for example it does not publish a decent pamphlet in English explaining that the Ukrainian SSR is not Russia, etc. Subject replied that this is not really the mission's main function. Source disagreed, saying that it is not only their job, but it is a very important facet of propagating true facts about Ukraine. Source added that very often Ukraine is referred to as Russia in American newspapers and Kiev is often conveniently located in Russia, while this is not so. Subject agreed, but did not want to prolong this discussion and changed to a different topic.

11. A following meeting was agreed to on the 13th of November, with the arrangement being that Source would call Subject at his office and they would go somewhere together.

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